

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY BUSINESS INDICATORS, DECEMBER 1993****MAIN FEATURES**

The December issue of ACT Business Indicators sees the addition of a new trend series indicator for State Accounts data.

In the December issue of ACT Business Indicators notable increases have occurred in the following series:

- Trend series State final demand increased in the September quarter 1993 over the same period last year by 2.2 per cent.
- The value of residential alterations and additions in October 1993 increased by 13.2 per cent to \$6 million over September 1993.
- Trend series for October for total retail turnover increased by 0.4 per cent from September 1993 and by 5.6 per cent from the same period last year.
- Room occupancy rates in the ACT increased by 7.2 percentage points in the September quarter of 1993 from the June quarter 1993 and by 13.9 percentage points over the same period in 1992.
- Trend series unemployment rate for November 1993 remained steady at 7.7 per cent.

Several series experienced falls in the latest figures.

Trend figures for new motor vehicle registrations in the ACT decreased 2 per cent in the month of November 1993 from the previous month. However, there was a 14 per cent increase over the same period last year.

Value of total building approvals for the ACT decreased by 8.2 per cent from the previous month compared with a national decrease of 18.4 per cent over the same period.

Total new housing commitments in the ACT fell by 13.8 per cent from September 1993 compared to a national decrease of 10.1 per cent for the same period.

Trend series private final consumption expenditure for the September quarter 1993 increased over the June quarter 1993 by 4.8 per cent compared with 1 per cent increase for Australia over the same period. The annual increase was 2.5 per cent, which compares to the national increase of 3 per cent.

The number of employed persons for the ACT in November rose by 0.2 per cent to 160 800 in original terms, compared with the Australian increase of 0.1 per cent.

The trend series participation rate in the ACT for November 1993 increased by 0.1 percentage point to 74.4 per cent. The national increase was also 0.2 of a percentage point taking the rate to 63.1 per cent.

Original new motor vehicle registrations for the ACT grew by 4.3 per cent to 1 015 from October 1993. This also represents an increase of 10.8 per cent over the year since November 1992. However, this figure trails the national increase of 12.1 per cent between October and November 1993 and 12.5 per cent between November 1992 and November 1993.

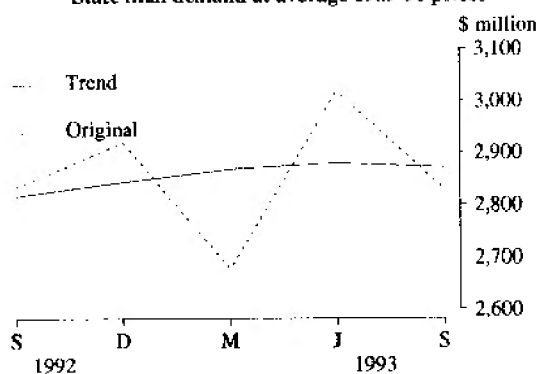
**DALMA JACOBS**  
Statistician Australian Capital Territory

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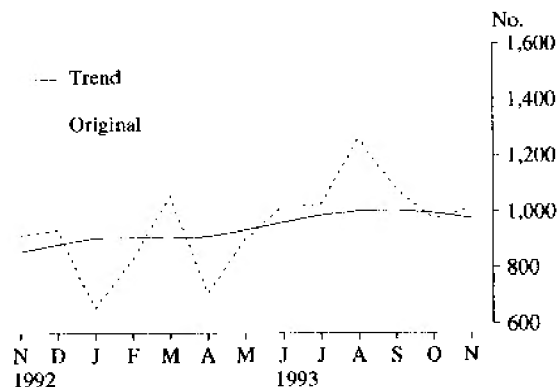
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## SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS

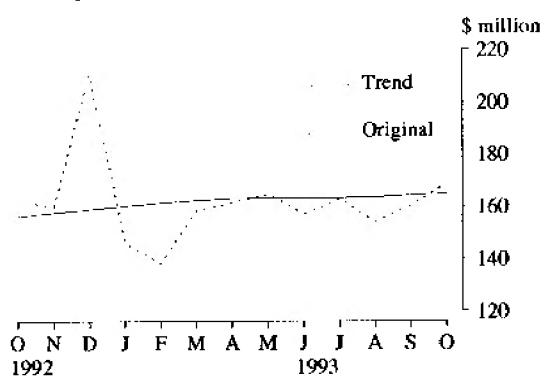
**NATIONAL ACCOUNTS: STATE ACCOUNTS**  
State final demand at average 1989-90 prices



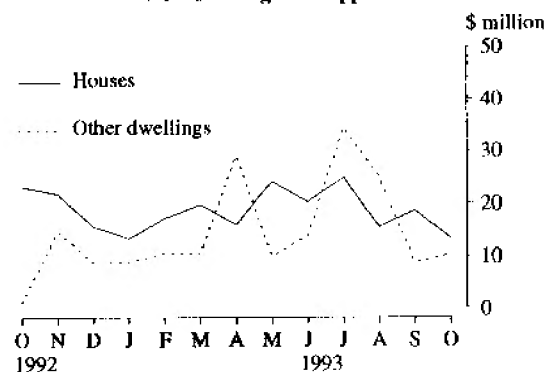
**MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS**



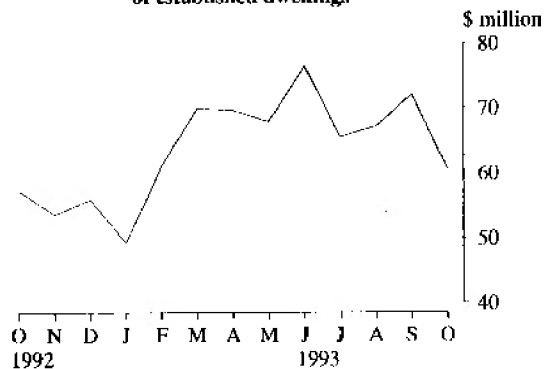
**TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS**



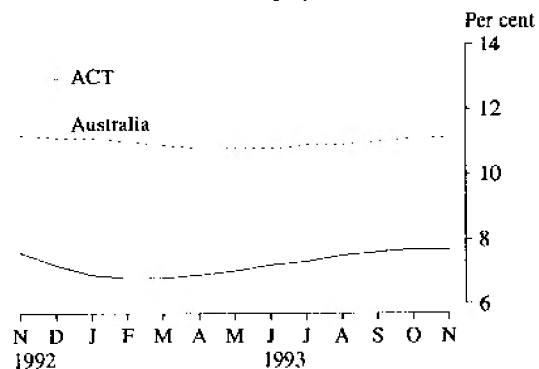
**BUILDING APPROVALS**  
New dwelling units approved



**HOUSING FINANCE**  
Secured commitments for the purchase  
of established dwellings



**LABOUR FORCE**  
Trend unemployment rates



## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY BUSINESS INDICATORS, DECEMBER 1993

Indicator	Unit	Australian Capital Territory			Australia		
		Latest figure	Change from previous period (%)	Change from same period previous year (%)	Latest figure	Change from previous period (%)	Change from same period previous year (%)
<b>Average weekly earnings, August 93</b>							
Original series							
Males	\$	669.80	-0.7	1.7	618.10	0.9	3.4
Females	\$	472.30	-2.2	7.7	409.60	0.8	3.1
Total persons	\$	570.60	-1.5	3.7	520.60	0.6	3.3
Trend series							
Males	\$	673.90	0.5	2.2	622.30	1.3	3.8
Females	\$	483.10	1.4	7.9	413.20	1.2	3.7
Total persons	\$	578.70	1.0	4.4	525.80	1.3	4.0
<b>Building approvals, (original figures), October 93</b>							
Dwelling units	no.	233	-11.4	-2.1	14 622	-7.1	1.6
Value of new residential	\$m	23.6	-14.2	-2.9	1 207.6	-9.3	4.7
Value of residential alterations and additions	\$m	6.0	13.2	22.4	195.0	-12.9	4.3
Value of non-residential	\$m	11.8	-5.6	293.3	618.5	-33.0	-21.2
Value of total building	\$m	41.5	-8.2	28.9	2 021.1	-18.4	-4.9
<b>Building commencements, June quarter 93</b>							
New houses	no.	603	30.5	-5.6	29 300	13.4	7.8
Value of houses commenced	\$m	64.3	30.2	0.8	2 612.4	12.9	9.2
Value of non-residential building commenced	\$m	65.0	-4.0	45.1	1 080.4	-10.2	-7.9
<b>Hotels, motels and guest house accommodation, September quarter 93</b>							
Room occupancy rate(a)	%	62.2	7.2	13.9	54.5	7.3	12.4
Bed occupancy rate(a)	%	35.3	6.0	7.3	33.5	9.1	15.1
Takings from accommodation	\$'000	16 621	4.6	16.0	672 163	9.8	8.3
<b>Housing finance, October 93</b>							
Secured commitments to individuals for							
Construction of dwellings	\$m	10.2	-7.3	-10.5	619.9	-14.0	22.0
Purchase of new dwellings	\$m	17.2	-9.5	—	165.1	-9.3	10.6
Purchase of established dwellings	\$m	60.6	-16.0	5.6	2 304.9	-6.6	21.3
Total new housing commitments	\$m	87.9	-13.8	2.2	3 535.6	-10.1	23.1
<b>Industrial disputes in progress, September 93</b>							
Working days lost	'000	1.1	100.0	1 000.0	80.6	11.3	214.8
Days lost per '000 employees (year ended September 93)	no.	15	87.5	-25.0	195.0	4.8	31.8
<b>Labour force, November 93</b>							
Job vacancies (August 93)	'000	1.4	-12.5	7.7	35.0	7.0	27.7
Original series							
Employed	'000	160.8	0.2	2.6	7 833.1	0.1	2.3
Unemployed	'000	11.0	-6.0	4.8	902.3	-1.0	0.8
Unemployment rate(a)	%	6.4	-5.9	1.6	10.3	-1.0	-1.9
Participation rate(a)	%	73.4	-0.5	—	62.7	-0.2	1.0
Trend series							
Employed	'000	160.7	0.4	2.3	7 812.7	0.2	1.7
Unemployed	'000	13.5	0.7	5.5	975.3	0.6	1.0
Unemployment rate(a)	%	7.7	—	1.3	11.1	—	-0.9
Participation rate(a)	%	74.4	0.1	-0.1	63.1	0.2	0.5
<b>New motor vehicle registrations, November 93p</b>							
Motor vehicles (original)	no.	1 015	4.3	10.8	50 109	12.1	12.5
Motor vehicles (trend)	no.	977	-2.0	13.9	46 277	0.5	3.2
<b>Population, June quarter 93</b>							
Natural increase	no.	855	-9.9	29.0	35 348	-7.3	11.3
Net migration	no.	-299	-116.0	-167.5	-934	-104.6	-126.8
Total increase	no.	556	-80.2	-49.7	34 414	-41.1	-2.4
<b>Prices, September quarter 93</b>							
Consumer Price Index, All groups (1989-90=100.0)		111.0	0.6	2.2	109.8	0.5	2.2
Established house price index (1989-90=100.0)		133.4	-0.3	0.4	107.3	0.7	2.7
Price index of house building materials (1985-86=100.0)		149.3	—	4.8	150.9	0.5	5.2
<b>Retail turnover, October 93</b>							
Original series							
Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists	\$m	54.0	5.9	8.4	2 520.2	3.1	-1.1
Department and general stores	\$m	22.4	6.7	—	877.9	5.0	-6.4
Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	\$m	12.9	4.9	-4.4	1 049.7	7.0	0.7
All other stores	\$m	79.7	4.7	4.0	3 918.9	2.0	-1.9
Total	\$m	169.0	5.4	4.1	8 366.7	3.3	-1.8
Trend series							
Grocers, confectioners, tobacconists	\$m	51.8	1.0	9.3	2 498.3	0.4	4.9
Department and general stores	\$m	22.6	—	2.3	884.1	0.4	0.9
Hotels, liquor stores, licensed clubs	\$m	12.7	—	4.1	1 015.6	0.2	7.5
All other stores	\$m	78.0	0.3	4.4	3 842.3	0.1	1.3
Total	\$m	165.1	0.4	5.6	8 240.3	0.2	3.1
<b>State accounts, September quarter 93</b>							
Original series							
Gross State product at current prices	\$m	2 179	-0.5	-2.3	102 157	1.9	2.2
State final demand at average 1989-90 prices	\$m	2 830	-6.2	6.5	94 303	-0.8	3.4
Private final consumption expenditure	\$m	1 342	4.8	2.5	63 946	2.7	1.2
Private gross fixed capital expenditure and components	\$m	269	-2.9	1.5	15 369	2.0	9.5
Trend series							
Gross State product at current prices	\$m	2 212	1.0	1.5	103 433	1.3	3.3
State final demand at average 1989-90 prices	\$m	2 871	-0.3	2.2	94 425	0.3	2.0
Private final consumption expenditure	\$m	1 342	4.8	2.5	63 814	1.0	3.0
Private gross fixed capital expenditure and components	\$m	269	-2.9	1.5	14 939	-1.1	4.3

Source: ABS Catalogue Nos: 3101.0, 5242.0, 5609.0, 6203.0, 6321.0, 6354.0, 6401.0, 6403.0, 6408.0, 8501.0, 8635.0, 8731.0, 8752.0, 9301.0, 9303.0.

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(a) Change shown in terms of percentage points.



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